

MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

VOL. IX-No. 48

SALINAS, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1947

WHOLE No. 460

Annual Confab Of State AFL Opens Monday At Sacramento

(Release from State Federation of Labor)

The 45th Annual (48th Anniversary) Convention of the California State Federation of Labor, which will convene in Sacramento Monday, August 4, promises to be one of the largest conventions yet held, judging by the great number of credentials received from the various affiliated organizations.

The main concern of the convention will undoubtedly be the implementation of a program to combat the Taft-Hartley law, which now has become the prime threat to labor. As a result of the enactment of this slave bill, the membership of the labor unions is showing much greater interest in the coming 1948 elections, when every effort will be made to mobilize labor's powerful voice, through the ballot box, against those who played any part whatsoever in getting this law adopted. A number of serious recommendations dealing with political action and other issues legislative in character will be submitted by the Executive Council.

Great difficulties are being encountered in accommodating all of the delegates in Sacramento, but the local housing committee, headed by Vice-President Harry Finks, is doing everything humanly possible to provide rooms for everyone.

In the matter of resolutions which are submitted for consideration by the convention, it must be stressed that these resolutions must carry the names of the delegates representing the respective locals. Only delegates to the convention can present resolutions, and the local unions sending in resolutions should attach the names of their delegates in addition to those of the Secretary and the President of the organization.

Secretary George Meany of the American Federation of Labor and other notable speakers will participate in the convention, which will set the tone for labor in California with regard to all major issues of interest to the wage earners of this state.

Chicago Plans Giant Rallies

CHICAGO—Organized labor here, fearing the heavy hand of the Taft-Hartley act around its windpipe, has called a series of giant rallies which will feature protests against the new slave law.

The Chicago Federation of Labor announced plans to fill the 125,000-capacity Soldier's Field on Labor Day with AFL Pres. William Green as star speaker. The Labor Day rally will be the first demonstration of this kind here in more than a decade, AFL spokesmen said.

The United Steelworkers (CIO) summoned CIO Counsel Lee Pressman to speak at mass meeting here July 24. The meeting, to which the 100,000 steelworkers in Dist. 3 were invited, will explain tactics for fighting the law and open a drive for its repeal.

Ball Heads Joint Labor Study Group

WASHINGTON—Sen. Joseph H. Ball (R, Minn.) has become chairman of the joint congressional labor committee to study labor problems under the Taft-Hartley slave labor act.

Ball got the top spot on the committee when Sen. Robert A. Taft (R, O.) declined it. Rep. Fred A. Hartley (R, N.J.) is vice-chairman of the 14-man group which the new law directs to study causes of labor unrest, collective bargaining practices, productivity and the administration of federal labor laws.

A subcommittee of the group was selected to set its program. They are Ball, Hartley, Sens. Irving M. Ives (R, N.Y.) and James E. Murray (D, Mont.) and Reps. Gerald W. Landis (R, Ind.) and John Lesinski (D, Mich.).

"That picture of what Senator Taft thinks is a smile somehow helps to explain what he thinks is a law,"—San Diego Labor Leader.

Sit-Out Strike



Evicted from her New York apartment, Mrs. Marilyn Stevens refuses to budge from the sidewalk until she gets it back. The rent law Congress passed for the benefit of landlords means many more sidewalk scenes such as this unless tenants' pressure prevents them. (Federated Pix)

New Federal Laws Affect Farm Workers

(Release from State Fed. of Labor)

SAN FRANCISCO—In 1935 the federal government began a program of establishing camps for the housing of migratory agricultural workers. Although this was part of a peace-time program, set into motion several years before the war in Europe broke out, nevertheless the Surplus Property Act, HR 4384, passed in 1944, provided that the federal government must dispose of this housing within 6 months after the end of the war. This disposal date was later extended to January 31, 1948.

The irony of this legislation is apparent to anyone, and it is equally clear that opponents of the federally operated camps seized the opportunity to use wartime legislation, dealing with the disposal of wartime surpluses, to bring an end to federal operation.

The Surplus Property Act of 1944 did not specify the means by which the federal government would dispose of these camps, but in this session of Congress a number of bills have been introduced which attempt to establish procedures for disposal.

The first to be introduced were two identical bills, S. 1334 (Casper) and H. R. 3367 (Hope), which provide that "all sales or other dispositions thereof shall be made only to farmers and associations of farmers in the community for the purpose of housing agricultural workers."

The danger of this provision is obvious, for it means a return to the conditions prior to 1935, a return to private operation with all of the undesirable characteristics that existed prior to 1935 when such accommodations as were available were in the hands of farmers.

For California, this means, in reality, the establishment of a system of company housing for California's migratory labor, and a return to a system of industrial feudalism.

Among the defeated measures were proposals to nullify parts of the child labor law, to give the commerce commission jurisdiction over all strikes and labor problems in utilities, to prohibit picketing unless a strike is underway, to outlaw the closed shop, a bill to limit union membership to wage earners, one outlawing the secondary boycott and another requiring compulsory arbitration in public utilities.

Politax Repeal Passes House

WASHINGTON—As a gesture to prove its "liberalism," the Republican leadership in the House steamrollered the anti-politax bill over the frantic opposition of Democratic conservatives July 21 by a 290 to 111 vote.

Among the Republicans, 216 voted for the bill and only 14 were listed as opposed. Rep. Vito Mancantonio (AFL, N.Y.) also voted for passage of the bill.

Although the measure went through with more than a two-thirds vote, because of bringing it up of order there is no chance that it will be considered by the Senate before Congress quits for the summer.

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Bldg. Trades Probe Pushed by Senate

WASHINGTON—The resolution by Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R, Wis.) calling for a Senate probe of the American building industry and its labor, wage and price structure got support July 16 from Leon Henderson, former top government economist and Chairman of the Americans for Democratic Action.

Appearing after Gen. Robert Wood of Sears, Roebuck & Co., who also endorsed the investigation, Henderson told the joint committee on the economic report:

"I'd like to see this committee investigate the building industry. It's one of the stinkin' shames."

Chairman Robert A. Taft (R, O.) said happily that his labor committee is considering the McCarthy resolution and "I am for it."

Henderson replied: "And I'd be a happy and sustaining witness for you."

"Do you still wake up with a grouch?"

"No, dearie. I divorced him."

"The Modern Cure

"Do you still wake up with a grouch?"

"No, dearie. I divorced him."

Carpenters May Revive Bay Conference

Carpenters of local unions in Salinas, Monterey, Watsonville and Santa Cruz may revive the Four-Local Conference, which was so successful in handling mutual problems several years ago.

Advances toward the rejuvenation of the conference plan, which calls for representatives of locals to meet in alternate cities at regular intervals to talk over various problems, were made recently, it was reported.

George Harter, business representative of Carpenters 925 of Salinas, said that a dinner meeting will be called shortly in Salinas for the purpose of determining if all local unions wish to revive the plan.

Area Council Of Laborers Picks Officers

New officers were elected by the Northern California District Council of Laborers last week, an election participated in by delegates of the local Laborers Union.

Paul Burnett, secretary of Santa Cruz Laborers 283, was elected as a trustee of the district body.

The new officers include:

President—Robert Lee, of Richmond, former mayor of that city and still a city councilman.

Vice President—Jerry Timmer, of San Rafael.

Business Agent—Lee Lawler, of Oakland.

Secretary-Treasurer—A. F. Bartholomew, of San Francisco.

FIRST GILROY GARAGE SIGNS WITH UNION

Gilroy had its first union garage today following negotiation and signing of an agreement covering the Service Garage, 299 South Monterey St., with Auto Mechanics Union 1101, reports Business Representative Charles Downs.

Downs said that J. B. Turney, former mechanic with the Madonna Motors Co., has become associated with L. P. Duncorme in the Service Garage, and that Turney has become a member of Local 1101.

The current wage, hours and conditions agreement of Local 1101 was signed, Downs added. All union members in the Gilroy area are urged to look for the union card of Local 1101 for all repair work or service.

Another bill, H. R. 3956 (Doughlas), approaches this problem from a more rational point of view. It permits the transfer of these camps to the Secretary of Labor and for their operation under his direction. This bill also authorizes the Secretary of Labor to have charge of the placement of migratory agricultural workers in accordance with employment opportunities, and establishes safeguards in respect to payment of prevailing wages at regular intervals, conformance to all federal, state and local laws relating to employment and to the establishment of standards of housing, subsistence, etc.

A third bill, S. 1555 (Pepper and Aiken) provides that the Secretary of Agriculture may dispose of these houses "by grant or otherwise" to "any public or semi-public institution or organization or any non-profit association of farmers." The inherent danger in this bill, as in the Hope-Carter bills, is that the camps may be turned over to private operators and become, in fact, company housing.

This is a problem of vital concern to organized labor in California, and no effort must be spared in preventing the reestablishment of "company housing" for California's migratory labor.

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Were it not for the labor press, the labor movement would not be what it is today, and any man who tries to injure a labor paper is a traitor to the cause.—Samuel Gompers.



HEALTH CARE ISN'T CHEAP

A current issue of *The New Republic*, edited by Henry Wallace, carries an excellent article by Leonard Engel entitled "Best Buys in Medical Care." It is a critical survey of the many hospital and medical-insurance schemes in this country. He points out that a satisfactory group health plan should provide you with *all* of the following:

In the home—ambulance service; medical care by general physicians and specialists; visiting nurse service.

At the medical center—eye examinations; diagnostic and laboratory tests; physiotherapy and radiotherapy; psychiatric advice; medical care by general physician and specialists; checkups and immunization.

At the hospital—medical care, bed and board (including special diets), general nursing service; surgical care and use of operating rooms and equipment; drugs, medicines and laboratory examinations; X-ray, cardiographic and basal-metabolic examinations; plaster casts and dressings; oxygen and physiotherapeutic equipment.

You can't get that kind of service these days for less than \$40 per person, and few prepaid group health plans provide it. Blue Cross covers hospitalization, but not doctor bills. Physicians and Surgeons plan in this state (run by the California Medical Association) has many defects. Engel says the ones that give most for the money are the Kaiser plan here on the coast and the HIP (Health Insurance Plan) in New York.

Anyway, all these plans are makeshifts. What is needed is a real national insurance plan. *While you are using the best of what's available, take a little time out to plug for the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill.*

TYRANNY OF BOGEY-WORDS

Albert Deutsch, writing in *RM*, says that if you're short on facts, if you can't answer the other fellow's arguments, you can always dig up a "bogey word." Adolf Hitler was most adept at this. Anybody who disagreed with him he called a "Jew-Bolshevik." He kept harping on this bogey until he got enough support to get into power.

Today in the United States the "bogey word" is "Red." Politicians and reactionaries don't take the trouble to point out accurately just what is wrong with this or that person or movement or proposal. If they don't like it or want it, they simply haul out the trusty old Red-bogey and proceed to do a smear job with it. We had a classic example of that in the attempt to smear David Lilienthal.

Professor Clyde R. Miller of Columbia University declares that the wholesale use of the "Red" scare-word is one of the most dangerous in history. He adds: "The only other scare-word comparable to it as a public menace was 'heretic' in the Middle Ages. The Thomas-Rankin Committee on Un-American Affairs has become the modern version of the medieval Inquisition, hunting down and persecuting the unorthodox."

A good rule to follow is: Whenever an issue comes up, pick it to pieces, judge it on its merits, weigh the arguments pro and con, then accept or reject. *Democracy in this country is not in a very healthy state if the majority of the people are influenced by bogey words to make snap judgments.*

"SAVED" FOR FASCISM?

In our modest way we have been trying to say the same thing over the years, and we are glad to reprint this excerpt from an editorial in the current issue of *The International Teamster* (AFL) to back us up. It speaks for itself.

"In the Taft-Hartley bill we see the climax of the crusade against Communism. For years we have insisted that this crusade was a phony and that Communism was being inflated as a false peril to drive us into the arms of Fascism as our 'protector'."

"Now we see the proof. The Taft-Hartley bill outlaws unions with officers who could be 'reasonably suspected' of Communism. But what does it say about Ku Kluxers, Bundists, Fascists, or other enemies of American democracy? Nothing! Absolutely nothing!"

"In the mind of Taft and his playmates in Congress, democracy can be threatened only from one direction—the left. Apparently nobody in power in Congress cares how far we go in the opposite extreme."

And that's the point exactly! Fascism is Big Business in the saddle, smashed labor unions, gagging of free political expression, inadequate wages alongside of fantastic prices, a press subservient to the moneybags. There are elements of all this present in our economy to a considerable degree, and the Taft-Hartley bill is a manifestation of it. The next economic crisis could provide the real thing. The very fact that Congress is not a bit concerned about totalitarianism from the right reminds us how vigilant we must be not to be taken in by phony scare-words.

Transferring Taxes to the Poor

It was a narrow escape the American people had at the hands of our graft-hungry Congress, when the four billion dollar tax reduction bill was almost passed over the President's veto in the two attempts made in quick succession to accomplish just this.

What so many people fail to realize is that this move, like so many others, was simply another means to shift more of the burden of government and the public debt resulting from the wars of the last fifty years to the already overloaded and overtaxed common people.

Much for Rich, Little for Poor

Let us not forget that this law, by which the present Congress wanted to prune down federal taxes by four billion dollars, so that wealthy taxpayers would get big reductions while those in the wage earning class would get very small reductions, is the same law that F. D. Roosevelt vetoed because it favored the rich and taxed the poor out of all proportion to their ability to pay—which has always been held to be the fairest guide in levying taxes. What would Roosevelt have said of the determined attempt the present Congress made twice in quick succession to pass a far unfair law tilting much more in favor of the rich, who are right now reaping the fattest profits they ever enjoyed, over and above all their present income taxes?

Profits of 1946 reached nearly sixteen billion dollars for the profiteers in the United States. In all probability the net profits of 1947 will be larger than those of 1946. What was intended by the four billion tax shift which Congress first sought to put into effect as of July 1, 1947, and the second time changed to January 1, 1948, was to siphon that much additional money mostly into the profit bags of the rich, so that the profits of 1948 might soar past the twenty billion mark.

Just What It Meant to Us

What difference would this make to us? One result would be that a payment of this four billion dollars on our national debt could not be made.

Two and one-half per cent interest on this extra debt amounts to \$100,000,000 a year extra to be paid by all of us in increased prices or higher special taxes to raise the money to pay this extra interest. But that is only for one year. Every year after that, as long as we lived and as long as our children lived, we would have to pungle up a hundred million dollars every year for interest until the principal of that four billion would be paid off.

What Congress said by its action in passing that tax bill was that it deemed it more important to siphon the four billion dollars in extra profits into the already well-filled money tills of the rich, than to use that money to reduce our national debt and by so doing save our people from the burden of paying an extra hundred million a year of interest on that four billion.

What Our Congress Should Do

What our Congress should be doing, if it really wanted to serve the American people, should be to cut out this senseless loaning of money to the warmakers in China and Greece, and to other war-hungry rulers, whose chief concern seems to be to wage war against their own people. That money should be used instead to reduce our national debt, not only by the four billion that leaving the income tax where it is will enable them to pay off; but to reduce it two or three times that amount each year in order to ease the terrific interest bill that confronts us as long as the debt remains. A four billion reduction of the national debt every three months would eliminate \$400,000,000 of interest each year. By doing this our annual interest bill, which now is six and one-half billion dollars a year, would steadily get smaller and the staggering interest burden that now keeps the noses of most of us to the grindstone would be steadily getting lighter.

This Congress Favors Rich

Instead of adopting this sensible policy for the benefit of the vast majority of our people, our present Congress seems bent only on helping the rich get richer at the expense of the rest of us, and by unjust tax laws to transfer ever more and more taxes and government costs, by direct and indirect means, from the shoulders of the rich, who feel it the least, to the backs of the common people, who feel it the most. This burden is becoming harder and harder to bear as it steadily grows.

Our present Congress is truly a graft Congress, if there ever was one. Their recently adopted Taft-Hartley law was one of their pet measures to help employers and big business in their fight against labor unions. If enforced to the letter this law will weaken many unions and result in lower wage standards for the wage earners of our land. That again is aimed to make the rich richer and our wage earners poorer. A few more amendments in the same direction would outlaw trade unions entirely. Then would follow slavery and servitude, as it did in Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, when their governments outlawed the trade unions.

We Must Elect New Lawmakers

Our alternative to having such an unhappy state of affairs to come to pass in our United States is to retire from office every member of the present Congress, who comes up for re-election in 1948, who showed unmistakable anti-labor colors by voting for the Taft-Hartley bill. We must elect as successors others who stand pledged to repeal the Taft-Hartley bill in its entirety.

All credit to those few senators and members of the House of Representatives who voted against the Taft-Hartley bill. They deserve to be re-elected. As for the remainder, who made this reactionary bill a law to injure, weaken and eventually to destroy organized labor, let every worker in the land make this a fight to a finish in the 1948 elections. Start getting registered now in preparation for the elections of 1948.

As labor was the deciding factor that helped and made it possible to sweep Franklin D. Roosevelt into the presidency four successive times, contrary to the wishes of all reactionaries, so let labor in 1948 step up to the ballot boxes and help elect members of Congress who will repeal the Taft-Hartley bill as their first act when they take their seats in Congress early in 1949.

GIGGLES AND GROANS

TRUTH WILL OUT

It seems that Muldoon was the father of four husky, athletic boys of whom he was very proud. Mrs. Muldoon then gave birth to a fifth son who was dark, scrawny and didn't look anything like the others, so much so that Muldoon got suspicious.

He kept asking his wife whether the fifth son, Tim, was a Muldoon and she kept insisting he was, but Pat was never satisfied. As time went on and the four boys got bigger and bigger and Tim remained scrawny and rachitic, Muldoon was certain that there had been dirty work somewhere.

After some years, Mrs. Muldoon was dying and after she had taken the last sacraments, Muldoon decided he would find out for once and all whether Tim was a Muldoon. He knew that his wife wouldn't lie to him on her deathbed.

"Cathleen," Pat said to his wife, "you are on your deathbed. You wouldn't lie to me, I know. Now tell me the truth, is Tim a Muldoon?"

His wife looked him straight in the eye.

"Pat," she said, "I wouldn't lie to you now. Tim is a Muldoon, but the other four boys are O'Reillys."

• • •

IT'S THE PEDIGREE

TEACHER (in country school): "Why were you absent yesterday, Johnnie?"

JOHNNIE: "Si Perkins wanted to borrow Pa's registered bull and I had to take him over to Si's house."

TEACHER: "Couldn't your father have done that?"

JOHNNIE: "Eep, he could teach-er—but you see Pa ain't registered."

• • •

INTERESTED PROSPECT

MAID: "There is a woman peddler at the door."

MASTER: "Show him in, and tell him to bring his samples."

• • •

PRESSING EMERGENCY

Then there was the tailor who carried an epileptic out of his shop and remarked:

"What a splendid fit!"

• • •

TEMPUS FUGIT

Two old maids were discussing men.

"Which would you desire most in your husband: brains, wealth or appearance?" asked one.

"Appearance," snapped the other, "and the sooner the better."

• • •

SIMPLE DEDUCTION

JOHNNY: "Say, Ma, I just swatted five flies—two males and three females."

MOTHER: "Why, Johnny, that's ridiculous! How could you tell whether they're male or female?"

JOHNNY: "Simple, Ma. Two of them were on the poker table, and three were on the mirror."

• • •

VERY THOUGHTLESS

JUDGE: "You're charged with throwing your mother-in-law out of the window. Guilty or not guilty?"

PRISONER: "Guilty, your honor. I did it without thinking."

JUDGE: "That's no excuse—you might have hit somebody on the head."

• • •

SETTLED FOR GOOD

Little Jimmy announced to his grocer that there was a new baby at his house.

"Is he going to stay?" the grocer asked.

"I guess so," replied the boy, "he's got all his things off."

• • •

JUST TO BE PRACTICAL

FARMER: "You can't go wrong on this mare. She's sound, gentle, good worker, and a fine saddle horse."

CITY MAN: "I'll take your word for all that, but what I want to know is, is she tender?"

• • •

EVERYTHING DECENT

OLD MAID: "Has the canary had its bath yet?"

SERVANT: "Yes, ma'am. You can come in now."

• • •

THIS DOES IT!

The bartender wanted for the two drunks at the bar to give their order, then looked down at their pal who had fallen in the middle of the floor and made no effort to rise. "What'll he have?" he asked.

"Nothing, bub," answered one of them, "he's driving."

• • •

THE DISILLUSIONMENT

Smith meets Jones and says, "Hey, Jones, I don't want to interfere with your business, but you know, your wife is no beauty."

"I know that," said Jones, "in fact she's ugly."

"Why don't you be a good guy and send her to a beauty parlor? Get come mud pack put on her. That will help her," advised Smith.

"I did . . . last year. I sent her to a beauty parlor and they gave her a mud pack."

"What happened?"

"Aw, for three days she was beautiful."

"Then what happened?"

"Then the mud came off."

Hero Worship



"Yes, go on, and then what did you tell the nasty union?"

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Democracy Wins For Mr. Jones

AHOSKIE, N. C. — Democracy won a minor victory here with the announcement that Harvey Jones will get his Cadillac.

It all started when the local Kiwanis Club decided to run a dance and raffle to help the underprivileged but forgot to say it meant "underprivileged whites only."

Because of that slip, Jones, who happens to be a young Negro sharecropper, made the "mistake" of buying a \$1 raffle ticket for the \$3,200 Cadillac—and the further "error" of winning the raffle.

A delegation of Kiwanians, accompanied by a sheriff, went to Jones' home at 4:30 a.m. from the dance where the winning ticket was drawn and told him he never should have been sold a ticket in the first place.

But they were fair about it. They gave him his dollar back.

Then the Kiwanians went back to their dance "for the underprivileged" and picked another winner out of a hat. This time they awarded the big green Cadillac to Dr. Charles Townes, a dentist of Waverly, Va. Townes already had a car, a Chevrolet, but he was white.

All that happened the night of June 26. A few days later the editor of the Elizabeth City Independent heard about the incident and wrote an editorial in which he used words like "rotten, ungentlemanly, unsportsmanlike, worthy of no praise."

The Raleigh News and Observer picked up the story and on July 15 the United Press sent it out on the wires to all parts of the country. Things began to happen. Within 24 hours the newspaper PM in New York started a Cadillac-for-Jones fund and contributions began pouring in; New England Kiwanis officials promised that Jones would get a new automobile; several war veterans who had bought tickets in another Kiwanis lottery demanded their money back; the East Boston Kiwanis Club called for expulsion of their Ahoskie brothers, and countrywide protests swamped Kiwanis Intl. Pres. Carl W. Armstrong.

Armstrong, himself a resident of North Carolina, ordered the local Kiwanis to see that Jones got a car identical with the one given away in the raffle. The Ahoskie board of directors hastily called a meeting and late July 16 shame-facedly announced that Jones would receive a Cadillac. They didn't know where they would get another Cadillac, or how they'd pay for it, but Jones would get one.

Jones himself took the news calmly. "I am sure glad they decided to give me something," he said. Then mindful that a southern sharecropper can't afford to keep a Cadillac in the style to which it's accustomed, he said he would prefer "cash if possible."

NOTES HERE AND THERE
A tragic accident occurred to one of our members two weeks ago while riding a bicycle. Your union regrets to inform its members that Esther Reeves is the victim of this accident which resulted in a leg amputation. Sister Reeves is entitled to receive \$500 from the union under the Group Plan. It is claimed that the emergency treatment in this case was by an incompetent practitioner and that the result may keep Esther Reeves disabled for life. Remember that your union frowns on certain kinds of practices which should never be allowed to continue. In this case a practitioner set the leg and gauze resulted. Be very careful—only an M. D. or recognized physician should be consulted at all times.

REGISTER AT UNION OFFICE
Bro. Harry LaRue, a driver for Verrin-Edmonds is a victim of circumstances resulting from a trailer purchased from Morris Trailer Sales, 301 North Main Street, Salinas. A Mr. Sachett, who operates a lot, recently sold Brother LaRue a pile of junk disguised as a fine trailer at a cost of \$3,000. Brother LaRue pulled the trailer two miles and it fell apart. Court action is now taking place and we hope to recover a great portion of Brother LaRue's hard earned money. Remember this phony place at 301 North Main Street, Salinas. Be careful of this kind of a deal.

REGISTER TO VOTE NOW
A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Burdett. Brother Smiley Burdett is employed at the Monterey Ice Company. This young lady was born July 14, 1947, weight seven pounds, six ounces. Both mother and daughter are doing fine.

REMEMBER 80th CONGRESS
Many of our members and their families enjoyed a fine outing last Sunday in Hollister at the expense of the Salinas Moose. It was a huge success and much praise should go to the committee in charge of the affair for a fine, outstanding job. They say the steaks were par excellent. Good going and Good Luck Salinas Moose.

Your union has donated radio to the San Benito County Hospital, along with the Hollister Canning Company who have also given a radio, that those people who are confined to their beds may pass the time more pleasantly. Anyone knowing of any of our members that are in the hospital, let the officers of the union know so that we may have our sick committee

With Local 890 FRUIT & PRODUCE DRIVERS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND EMPLOYEES UNION

Main and John Streets
Salinas, California

Every week a note expressing your union's political views as it may affect our welfare will appear in this column. At present, your union, like most organized groups, is keeping a watchful eye on Congress. As you well realize now, certain portions of the Taft-Hartley Law prohibits unions from informing their members about candidates for Congress, to study their records, publish their votes and speeches, buy radio time and many other acts which heretofore were permissible. However, there is nothing in this one-sided law to prevent your union keeping its members informed about guys like Mr. Ernest K. Bramblett of Pacific Grove, representing the 11th Congressional District and Jack Z. Anderson of San Juan, representing the 8th Congressional District and their actions while acting in your behalf as a public servant. So watch this column; and by November, 1948, it will be up to you and millions of working people like yourself throughout the nation to remove from public office men such as these, who are known enemies of the American Trade Union movement. Plan now to replace them in 1948. Don't forget Senator William F. Knowland of Oakland, California, who is also listed on Labor's ROLL OF DISHONOR.

REGISTER TO VOTE IN 1948

IMPORTANT—Many of our jobs are beginning to open up. Among these are Spiegel Foods, Raiter Canning Co., the seed houses in Salinas, Watsonville and Hollister. So if you are unemployed, register at the union office for work now.

Contracts have been consummated with Spiegel Foods, Raiter Canning Co., Watsonville Canning Co. and Joseph Kiser in Watsonville for the season. These agreements call for minimum wages of \$1 per hour for women and \$1.15 per hour for men, with rates ranging to \$1.50 per hour, time and one-half for overtime, double time after 12 hours, one and two weeks vacation with pay per year, shift premium and seniority. During the month of August many jobs will be channeled through your union offices in Salinas and Watsonville to these food plants.

1948—ELECTION YEAR
San Juan and Gilroy—Negotiations continue with Sam Regas & Sons, San Juan, and C. B. Gentry, Gilroy. Retroactive dates have been established with these two firms. Watch this column for further information regarding these two firms.

REMEMBER NOVEMBER 1948
Your union has many publications at the office, some of which are on veterans welfare, a booklet on your own union, a booklet entitled Communism in Action which every member in this union should read, extra copies of the Monterey County Labor News and the AFL Canner Reporter, please let the union office know and we will arrange to have it printed weekly.

Patronize Union Services—Keep in Good Standing—Register to Vote Now at the Union Office—Remember 1948—Election Year.
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Although the time for reinstating lapsed National Service Life Insurance has been extended, Veterans Administration said that August 1, 1947, still remains the deadline for applying for two other insurance benefits.

The first concerns veterans who may be entitled to waiver of premium payments because of total disability existing for six or more consecutive months. Waiver in such cases generally is made effective from the date of period of disability commenced, but not more than one year before VA's receipt of the insured's application for waiver.

If application is made by August 1, however, and entitlement to waiver is established, it may be made effective from the beginning of the disability period as far back as August 1, 1941, and premiums paid while the insured was totally disabled will be refunded.

After next August 1, waiver of premiums paid more than a year from date of application will be granted only in special cases where it can be shown that the insured was unable to apply within the time limit.

The other deadline effects beneficiaries of deceased NSLI policyholders who, prior to death either in service or after discharge, became eligible for waiver of premiums but never applied. Such beneficiaries may claim refund of waived premiums during the insured's total disability extending as far back as August 1, 1941, if application, with evidence of the insured's right to waiver, is made by August 1 of this year.

After that date, waiver normally will not be granted for any premium which was due over a year from the insured's death, and the beneficiary must apply within that time. Exception is made where the beneficiary is incompetent or a minor, in which case application must be filed within one year from removal of the legal barrier.

Forms and assistance in applying for these benefits prior to the August 1 deadline are available at any VA office.

Q. Who is entitled to the last compensation or pension due a veteran in event of his death?

A. The check received at the time of the veteran's death becomes a part of his estate. The person who bears the expense of the last sickness may apply for the burial award of \$150.

Q. I am a World War I veteran and would like to know if I can get a guaranteed loan under the provisions of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act (GI Bill).

A. No. Benefits of the act are for World War II veterans only.

Opponents of Draft Denied a Hearing

Many of our members and their families enjoyed a fine outing last Sunday in Hollister at the expense of the Salinas Moose. It was a huge success and much praise should go to the committee in charge of the affair for a fine, outstanding job. They say the steaks were par excellent. Good going and Good Luck Salinas Moose.

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Women Workers Holding Jobs Despite Family

(Release from State Fed. of Labor)

SAN FRANCISCO—One of the well-known economic consequences of the late war has been the increase in the number of women who have entered the labor market. A significant number of these women are either wives in "normal" families (husband and wife present) where there were children under 6 years of age, or who were themselves heads of families with children under 6.

According to the United States Bureau of the Census, 1,240,000 women, or 8 per cent of the total woman labor force, fell into this category in February 1946.

In families where the children are older, a greater proportion of the wives are found in the labor force. Thus, while in families with children under six years of age, only nine per cent of the wives worked, in families with children ranging between six and 18 years of age, 22.5 per cent of the wives were employed. Where there were no children, 23.9 per cent of the wives worked.

Despite the removal of wartime

pressures which brought an increased number of women into the hospital for an appendectomy. All members of this union wish him a speedy recovery.

If any of our members wish to have the veterans column (published in the Monterey County Labor News only) printed in the Canner Reporter, please let the union office know and we will arrange to have it printed weekly.

Patronize Union Services—Keep in Good Standing—Register to Vote Now at the Union Office—Remember 1948—Election Year.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Although there has been constant pressure on the part of the trade union organizations for "equal pay for equal work," the earnings of men were still, on an annual average, more than twice those of women. The latest census figures available (1945) show that the average annual wage for men, in all occupations combined, was \$2,073; for women, this was but \$881.

This discrepancy is partly accounted for by the fact that large numbers of women are employed in occupational classifications paying lower wages, and also because many women do not work full time the year through.

The first concerns veterans who may be entitled to waiver of premium payments because of total disability existing for six or more consecutive months. Waiver in such cases generally is made effective from the date of period of disability commenced, but not more than one year before VA's receipt of the insured's application for waiver.

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CARPENTER ROUNDUP

Although construction of homes of the smaller and less expensive type has fallen off seriously in the Salinas area, construction of a larger type home is scheduled to get started in new subdivisions shortly and business construction is continuing to be heavy, reports Business Agent George R. Harter of Carpenters 925.

Among the jobs in progress are:

Lucky Market, in the South Main St. development, is progressing rapidly. Concrete walls are up for the vast building, which is being erected by Daly Bros. of Oakland. Truss material is being piled up for the 120-foot long truss roof, largest of the wooden trusses in this area.

Construction of the Thrifty Drug Store is to begin shortly by the Pacific Builders, local firms.

Contractor F. V. Hampshire is about ready to start the new sausage plant on West Market St. Red tape surrounding details has held up start of this job, Harter said.

Hampshire also is constructing the new jail annex in downtown Salinas.

The Stolte Company is making good progress at the county hospital on barracks for indigents.

Union officials are checking on reports that certain union craftsmen of the Salinas area are traveling to Soledad and Gonzales on Sundays and holidays for building construction there, working with non-union men on their supposed days of rest. Brother Harter said a careful study is being made and that some action may be taken, if necessary.

**FARMER-LABOR
Vs. MONOPOLY
ONLY SOLUTION**

WASHINGTON — The time has come for agriculture and labor to unite in their struggle against the monopoly, giants who control their economic future, CIO Research Director Kermit Eby told the House

Building Trades Council

The meeting of the Building & Construction Trades Council of Monterey County was called to order by Chairman Wm. J. Dickerson at 8:05 p.m., July 24, 1947.

Roll call showed 21 delegates from nine local unions. Four visitors.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

CREDENTIALS

Electric Workers 1072 presents credentials for Bros. M. Fales, Leroy Haste and Clayton Norquist as delegates to the Council.

Sheet Metal Workers 304 presents credentials for Bro. Ray S. Isakson as a regular delegate to the Council.

It was moved and seconded that the credentials be received and the delegates seated. (Carried.)

CORRESPONDENCE

Received a letter from San Diego County Federated Trades and Labor Council indorsing Bro. K. G. Bitter for the position of president of the California State Federation of Labor at the coming convention.

A copy of minutes from Pile Butts Local Union 34 and from Building & Construction Trades Council of Santa Clara County.

Two weekly news letters from the California State Federation of Labor.

All bills were ordered paid.

BUSINESS MANAGERS' REPORTS

Bro. R. S. Rial reports his findings for the past two weeks. Visited San Francisco to gather legal information—brought back a very good report. He had a good meeting with the Lumber Mill Employers.

Bro. J. L. Bolin, business agent Local Union 272, reports the Fort Ord job has shut down for the time being and he has several painters out of work, but expects to place them on jobs in a few days. He reports a non-union spray painter operating in Carmel, who was fined for not securing a city license.

Bro. S. M. Thomas, business agent for Local Union 690 reports there will be a representative here and in Salinas from the Northern District Council to settle or adjust conditions of laborer lumber handlers. The dam on the Big Sur has been started.

REPORTS OF UNIONS

Bro. Joseph Real, L. U. 16: Good meeting Monday; initiated four new members.

Bro. Thomas Eide, L. U. 1323: I have just attended the Carpenters' convention and I have a copy of a speech made by one of the attorneys which I would like to have read. (It was presented to the secretary, who read the speech.)

Bro. M. Fales, L. U. 1972: Regular meeting; elected officers.

Bro. L. Casati, L. U. 690: Small meeting.

Bro. Bolin, L. U. 272: Good meeting; elected officers; all men

N.Y. Helps Renters But Not Frisco

NEW YORK—July 16 was a brighter day for New York's beleaguered tenants. Mayor William O'Dwyer (D) signed a bill freezing hotel and rooming house rents at June 30 levels—and a gouging landlady was sent to the workhouse for 30 days.

O'Dwyer's action brought immediate relief to the city's 250,000 permanent rooming house and hotel lodgers who had been receiving rent increases notices of as much as 50 per cent since Congress enacted new rent legislation. Earlier a supreme court justice, in anticipation of the local rent law, granted a temporary injunction to a tenant facing eviction from the Hotel Somerset where he had lived for nine years.

The gouging landlady, Lucy Budrick, was fined \$100 along with the workhouse sentence for charging \$40 a month for a basement apartment on which the OPA ceiling was \$6 a week.

Her conviction was the first obtained since last July 1 under the OPA act, which expired June 30. William L. Messing, local rent control chief, said he would prosecute all violators under the earlier law and ask for the maximum penalties in each case. Miss Budrick faces similar penalties on a case brought by another of her tenants. Another landlord, Victor Sager, was fined \$1000 in federal court for demanding a \$1500 bonus from a veteran who was trying to rent a \$50-a-month 3-room apartment.

Eviction threats continued to occur throughout the city, however, and several families were already out on the street. One of those getting an eviction notice was former assemblyman John L. Lamula, champion of state rent control and a leader in the fight against evictions.

SAN FRANCISCO—Figuring Congress hasn't done enough to stuff the landlords' pockets, the San Francisco board of supervisors voted unanimously to allow hotels to slap a 25 per cent rent increase on their permanent guests.

Afraid they still were not being generous enough, the supervisors also unanimously adopted an amendment allowing hotels to raise rents as high as they please on rooms vacated by permanent guests. Observers interpreted this as an open invitation to hotel management to force their residents out in the streets and embark on an unlimited rent raising campaign.

from each local, one member from each craft.

The judges and tellers for the election were Joseph Real, J. L. Bolin and L. Casati.

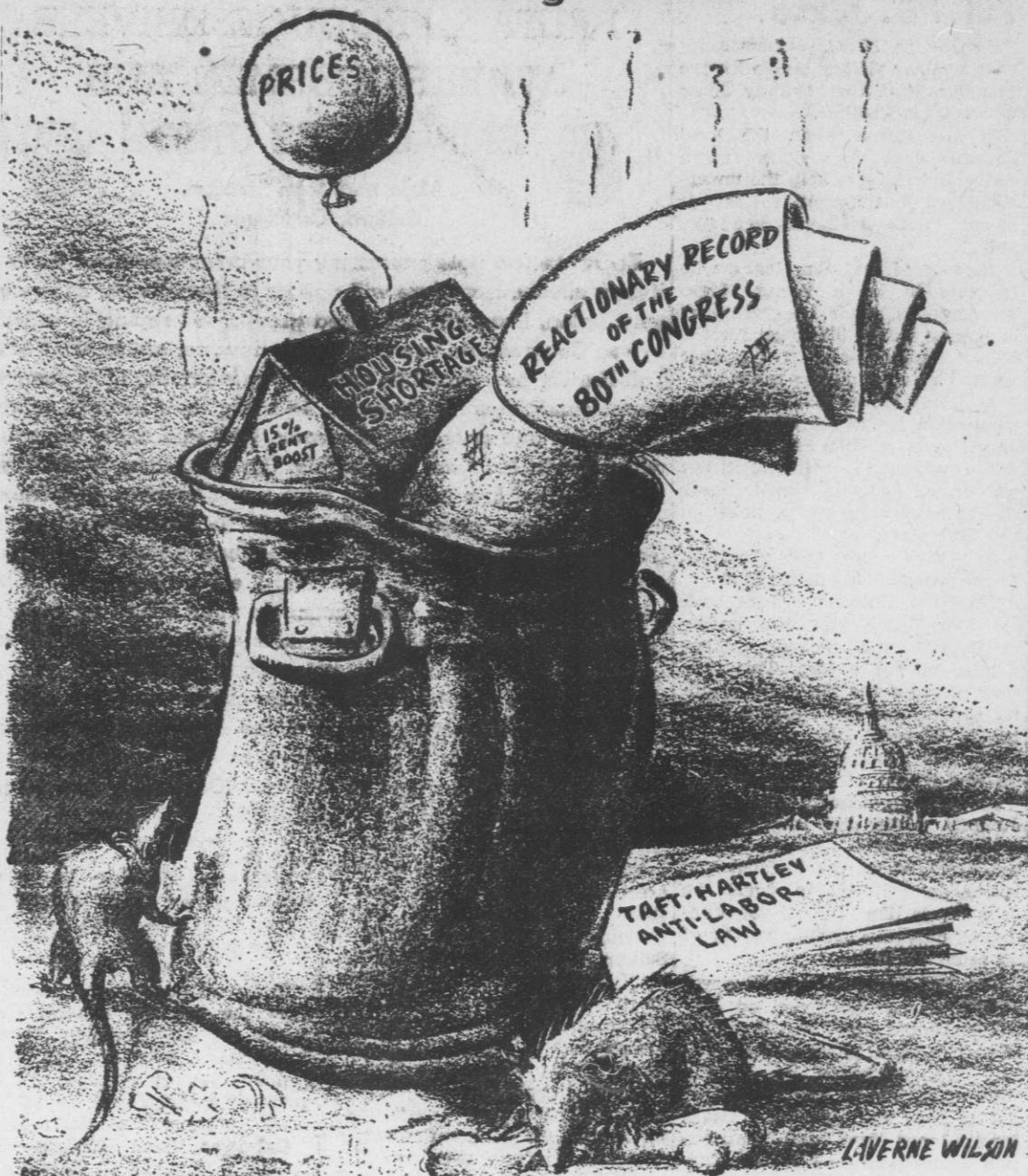
Installation August 7, 1947.

No further business to come before the Council; meeting adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

L. T. LONG, Sec.

Something Smells



THE FARMER'S ANGLE

By HOMER AYRES

BIG SHEEPSHEARERS CLIP SHEEP, FLEECE PUBLIC

When people order lamb chops or ask the store clerk if a particular garment is "all wool" they seldom are aware of the trials and tribulations involved in the production of wool and lamb or the route the chops or garments took from the time they were part of a helpless baby lamb. For once they were just that and, along with several hundred others, were vigilantly watched over by a faithful sheepherder armed with a 30-30 rifle to convince coyotes that a mutton diet is unhealthy.

Sheep are grazing animals and do best on the semi-arid ranges

of the west. In most places sheep

graze all winter, pawing the snow

from the rich native grasses with

their front feet. At night the

flocks are bedded down in a sheltered canyon with nothing but the

stars to shield them from the winter nights, which can get as cold

as 30 below zero with very little

provocation. The herder lives in

the ancestor of the modern trailer

house, the sheep wagon, notoriously cool in winter and warm in

summer. Some herders take the

eggs and spuds to bed with them

on cold nights to keep them from

freezing, as the canvas covered

wagon becomes as cold as the outside once the little camp stove dies down.

The baby lambs come in the

spring when the new grass is getting

good. After lambing, the flock

is grazed to the shearing pens

where the mothers are given a

close hair cut. The ewes produce

about eight pounds of raw wool,

half of which is dirt and grease.

A cold rain right after shearing

will chill sheep to death, so sheep

people live in fear of being wiped

out till the flock gets tempered

against the elements.

Some people ask why sheep are

only clipped once a year, knowing,

I suppose that the public is fleeced

every day, but the weather factor

makes it obvious that only in sum-

mer can sheep go without winter

duds.

The lambs weigh 60 pounds by

fall and are sold to feeders who

fatten them on palatable diet, rich

in fats and proteins, to a weight

of nearly 100 pounds. Then, after

first being clipped, they are slaugh-

tered at the packing house and

converted into stew-cuts, chops

and roasts.

BOLSTERED BY SUBSIDIES

The Commodity Credit Corp. bought the entire wool clip during

the war and paid about a dime

per pound more than the cost of

Australian wool plus ocean freight

and duty. But even with this

subsidy and the greatest wool and

meat market the world has ever

seen, a large number of sheep

men decided to go out of business

because they couldn't make a go

of it any longer.

Today sheep men are forced to go

to Washington for help and the

newspapers write lead editorials

on the subject because laws passed

to keep the price of American wool

up to a point where sheep freighting

is profitable also might upset

the international situation.

The one solution the sheep raisers

overlooked was to make it pos-

sible for the people to get enough

in their pay envelopes so they

could buy what they actually need

to wear. Most sheep raisers are

lacking in political and economic

understanding and instead fol-

lowed the large industrialists in

supporting the Taft-Hartley legisla-

tion. They dream about an im-

possible situation where wool and

meat will be high priced and

ranch supplies and sheepherders a

drug on the market.

The farmers, as a whole, ought

to take a look at the wool grow-

ing fraternity and ask themselves

the question: "Do our interests

harmonize with the interests of

the working people who eat the

food and wear the fiber we pro-

duce, or do they harmonize with

the interests of the big boys who

clip the public with less concern

than sheep raisers clip sheep?" To-

day it is the sheep raisers. Tomor-

row it will be all farmers.

FOR LONG VACATION



Congressional leaders leave the White House after it was decided not to call a special session this fall unless "unexpected contingencies" develop. Left to right: Sen. Wallace White (R., Me.), House Speaker Joseph Martin (R., Mass.), Sen. Alben Barkley (D., Ky.), Sen. Arthur Vandenburg (R., Mich.), Rep. Sam Rayburn (D., Tex.), and

Rep. Charles Halleck (R., Ind.). Evidently peak prices, wrecked rent controls and the desperate housing shortage aren't serious enough to keep Congress at work. (Federated Pix)



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